

In claim 5, line 1, please replace "any one of the preceding claims" with —claim 1—.

In claim 6, line 1, please replace "any one of the preceding claims" with —claim 1—.

In claim 17, lines 1-2, please replace "any one of claims 14, 15, or 16" with —claim 14—.

#### REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 4, 5, 6 and 17.

A new abstract page is supplied to conform to that appearing on the publication page of the WIPO application, but the new Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 371-5237.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: November 28, 2000

By



Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg No. 30,300  
DPM:jjw